

mi tu

legu. i. dgo. hoc
h'cu i. sept. i. g'ruent. Sed

le dars die terna festina dat per

coma. Variam concupando. sp'phoria uer

comu. Variam concupando. sp'phoria uer

Handwritten musical score on five staves.

Front inside of the cover



A

Very rare.

75. A. 18.

A manifest and apparent confutation of an Astrological discourse, lately published to the discomfort (without cause) of the weak and simple sort, as will by the sequel of that which followeth, evidently appeare.

With a brieve Prognostication, or Astrologically prediction, of the conjunction of the two Superiour planets, Saturn and Iupiter: which shalbe in the year of our Lord God 1583 the 29. of Aprill, at three of the clocke in the morning.

Written the 25. of March by THOMAS HETH, Master of Art.

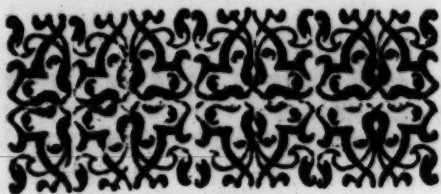
GOD IS MY



DEFENDER.

Printed by Robert Walde-grave, dweling in Foster Lane, over against Gold-smiths Hal, at the signe of the George.

By the aſſent of RICHARD VVATKIN.



The Epistle to the Reader.



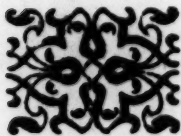
ENTLE READER, IT
may seeme a thing some-
what more then needful to
write of that, whereof ano-
ther hath vwritten so lately,
yea and as the most thinke,
so largely and learnedly, as is possible in that
behalf, and nothing omitted therein that
might any way tend to the declaration ther
of. The consideration vwhereof caused mee
at the first to pause at the matter, and in so
doing, found them that had hitherto vwritten
therof, to haue mistaken the grounde of all
their iudgement, presupposing a vwrong and
vntrue time of the coniunction of the saide
Planets, wherevpon they seeme to grounde
the principles of al their iudgements, and ther
fore I could not but certifie you thereof, and
with the best of my endeuour, seeking to sa-
tisfie you with the truth, haue enterprised to
write this treatise following, in humble wise
praying

The Epistle to the Reader.

praying you well to accept the plainesse and
simplicitie of the stile, as of one, not so well
exercised in the eloquent penning or the retho-
rical flourishing of any peece of work (though
the same be a thing very commendable and
requisite) as in the contemplation and prac-
tise of the art, cheefest to be expected herein,
hoping that no indifferent person vwill thinke
the worke of so excellent a science, for that
the students in the same profession, seeme to
vwrite the one directly contrary to the other:
the first, threatening great harme to the vvhole
world, the second, promising good hap to the
same, the rather, because that contrariety in
writing, is a thing not onely incident to this
profession, but also vnto sundry other studies
vvherein the leaured in ech faculty are to con-
sider and iudge; who in his profession vvri-
teth most learnedly and substantially, vnto
vvhose censure I submit my selfe, and this my
trauell, vvithing that as well the vnskilfull A-
stronomer, vvich takes vpon him the Art
vvithout knowledge thereof, making moun-
tains of Mothills, and myracles of meete tri-
ffes, might be better aduised ere hee publish
his doings to the view of the vvhorld, discre-
diting himselfe and the Art thereby, as also
that the vnlearned & ignorant sort, which in-
iuriously vpbraid and defame the same, tho-
ough their dispightfull and malicious spee-
ches (for that the predictions which the vn-
skillful

The Epistle to the Reader.

skillfull in this science prognosticat, answere
not their expectation to the full, either to
suspend their iudgements (for that the blinde
are not able to iudge or discern colours) ei-
ther els to impute the fault, where of right
it ought, vnto the artist and not vnto the Art
VWhich doing, their credite vvould be the
more, and the commendation of the Art no
lesse then in truth it doth deserue; and other-
vvise their rash and indiscreet iudgement, will
no lesse appeare herein, then in the condem-
nation of the common lawes without cause,
when as their humour is not pleased, and their
caute iustly condemned. But the Godly and
learned through their example admonished,
whose iudgement is more, and meaning bet-
ter, will I hope well conceiue of my simple &
plaine meaning herein, to whose good
consideration I referre the de-
claration of that which
followeth.





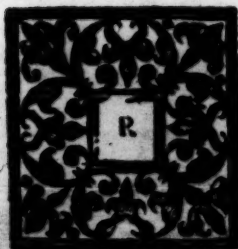
TO THE RIGHT
VVORSHIPFULL

Sir George Carey,
Knight, and Knight

MARSHALL OF HER MAIE.

ties most Honorable household.:

THOMAS HETH wisheth
long life vvith much fe-
licitie.



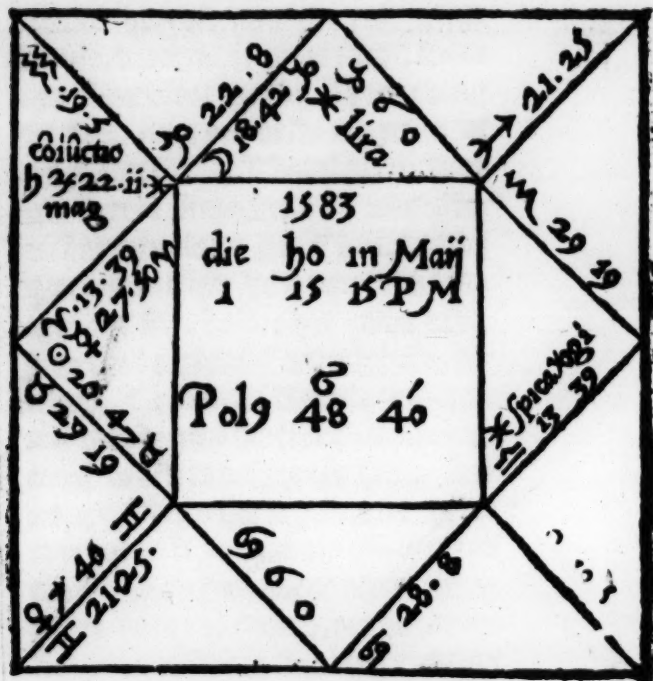
Right worshipful.
according to my
duety vnto your
worship, and my
native Country,
(though some-
what preuented
by the hasty and rash attempts of
other some). I haue at this present
publi.

A Confutation of an

published that, whereof I hope
your worship will accept, which
is my censure and opinion (accord-
ing to the groundes of Art) of
the coniunction of the two supe-
riour Planettes, hapning in this
yeare of our Lord, a thousand five
hundred eightie thre, the twen-
tie eight day of Aprill, about the
fifteenth houre of the Astronomi-
call daye. The which reduced to
our bulgar accountp, is the twen-
tie ninth day, at thre of the clocke
in the morning, or neare about
the same, as I am able to proue
by plaine Demonstration, though
Leonitius and an imitator of him,
Frauncis Liberati, an Italian Doc-
tor, *Vir equidem ab omni liberatus*
iudicio, affirme the same to be the
second day of May, at thre of the
clocke, fiftene Minutes in the
morning, vnder suche a Celesti-
all Scheme as followeth, erected
for the Meridian of Paris. But
holwe farre hee erreth from the
truth,

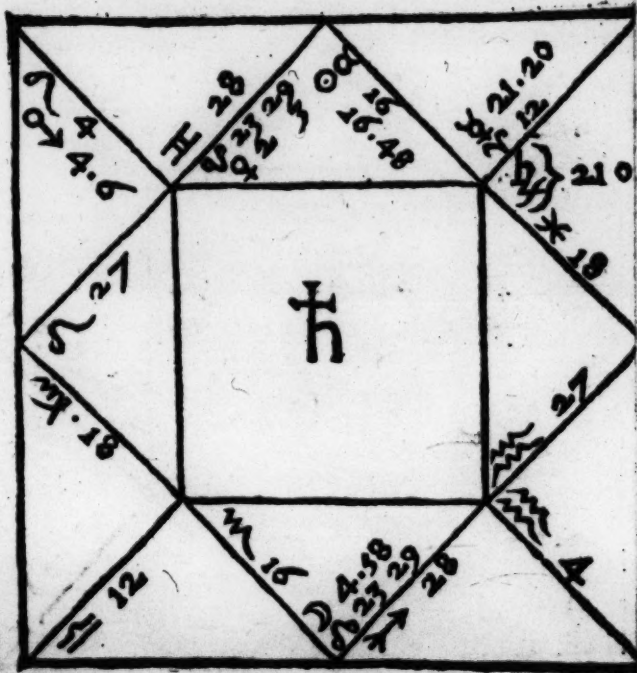
Astrologicall discourse.

truth, the thing it selfe will suffici-
ently shew.



Likewise *Stadius* somewhat near-
er to the truth, though farre differ-
ent, putteth it the twentieth
Day

A confutation of an
 day of Aprill, iust at none to them
 of Antwerpe, vnder such a figure
 as followeth.



The same by some reduced to Lon-
 don very sleightly. Wherefore before
 I can come to say any thing there
 of I am dyuen to dispoone many
 of

Astrologicall discourse.

of their mistaken *Axiomes*. ~~Where~~
with they seem to bying the world
into such admiration, that they of
the better sort, knowe not what to
thinke thereof, and the rest more
simple, brought into no small feare
and discomfort therby. As touching
the first, who yeeldeth no reason of
his predictions, I boldly say, they
are meere imaginary and alto-
gether frivolous. For if he iudge by
the coniunction, he seemeth to leap
ouer the stile before hee come at it.
For that a great Coniunction, E-
clipse, Comet, or Revolution can
not worke any matter that shoulde
come to effect before the same first
appeare vnto the world, and there-
fore were it, so that his estimate of
the Coniunction were anye thing
neere vnto the trueth, yet he coulde
not prognosticate therby any thing
to fall out before the time of the
sayd Coniunction (the same being
the efficient occasion thereof) as he
doth in the beginning of this yeare
1583.

A confutation of an

1583. the 26. day of February two
moneths before the coniunction, a-
monges a greate manye of other
strange matters. His wordes bee
these preparation de guerre en Augli-
terre &c. non obstant les iours qua-
resme. Likewise the thirteenth day
of March Division in Angluere cour-
riers en Flanders & en Almaygne. &c
Which saying because it touched
our native Country. I thought
good to recite as also for þ (God be
prayed therefore) it came nothing
so to passe. For nothing neere the
truth, for as all men know there
was no cause of preparation to
warre or likelihood thereof: much
lesse any preparation at all. But it
is an ancient saying, and not so old
as true, written by Pibolomi in his
*Centiloquio propositione 12. Amor
odiuque n: vera eueniant iudicia pro-
hibent, siquidem minuant maxima, au-
gent minima:* and therefore my trust
and confidence is, that the rest of
his predictions, wherewith hee
threats

9
Astrologicall discourse.

threatneth vs shall hurte vs no
more then the former hath hyther
to done. *Si deus enim nobiscum quis*
contra nos, if God bee on sure side,
who can be against vs. Agayne, if
he had iudged by the reuolution (as
it should rather seeme he did) wher
he putteth the ingresse of the sunne
into the first minute of *Aries*, to bee
the tenth daye of Marche at 8. a
clock thirty two minutes at night,
The twentieth eight degree of *Libra*
ascending, and *Mars* in *Cancer* in
the ninth house, if that position had
been true, as it is nothing so, yet
Mars can not be Lord of the yere
by any reason Astrologicall, being
neither strong in himselfe, nor wel
placed in the figure, for he is both
in his fall, and in a cadent house,
farre vnfit for that function, after
the mind of any learned wyter in
this science. And yet this is his opi
nion, *Mars plus puissant en la figure*
& lieu de ciel, de tous les autres Pla
nets sera seigneur & le dispositeur de
la

A confutation of an

le an 1583. And therefore with very good reason I conclude against him with the saying of Schouer, 'uomodo evitabit Astrologus errorem, si caput anni (radicem predictionis suae) prorsus ignoraverit. That is to say. how shall the Astrologer avoid an error in judgement, if he be utterly ignorant of the true beginning of the yeare, the very ground of his prediction.

And now to returne to the other, who seemeth to write more learnedly and more amply of the same matter, though not upon the same ground. Wherein verily he shewes him selfe a toward scholler, though not so perfect an Astrologer, in that hee leaneth somewhat too much, (without cause) to the workes of other wyters, as shall be declared hereafter, not examining whether there hath bene any error or oversight committed, either by the autho^r or printer of the same. For in one of them there must of necessity

Astrologicall discourse.

testify some negligence appeare As
 for example *Leonitius*, who was ex-
 cellently well learned, and daylie
 exercised in the *Mathematicals*,
 putteth the coniunction to bee the
 second day of May, at thye of 5 clock
 in the morning. Who as it is well
 known, followed the *Alphonse* ac-
 count, which at this day & long since
 is founde (by the best learned) to
 halt, & p^roued insufficient, exactly
 to account any apparent motiō by.
 Wherefore no doubt (if he were li-
 uing at this present) he would not
 let, (after p^roufe made) to say with
 othersom, *Errare po^{ss}um beneticus es-
 se noio*. And *Stadius* of like credite,
 and no lesse experience then the for-
 mer, affirmeth it to be the twenty
 eight day of April exactly at none,
 vnder the constitution that goeth
 before, which is more then foure
 dayes different, and therefore must
 needes breede greate alteration in
 iudgement.

A confutation of an

Lately, Maslin who endeavoreth himselfe to winne no lesse acceptation and credit then the rest, where of there is no doubt but he will if he perseuer, (as he hath already begun) putteth it to be the same day, but sixteene houres from none, or at foure of the clocke the next day in the morning, and nearest to the truth so certain. And though these writers do write for sundry meridians, as *Augusta, Antwerp, and Tubing*, yet can not any reduction bring them all to be united or agreeable to any one of the said three Cities, or any other meridian els, that one may safely say, this is the true houre and minute of the conjunction. For neither *Stadius* (if he had bene willed) or *Maslin* (if he should be required) to put it downe to the view of the worlde, would trust to his owne *Ephemerides*, much lesse to anye others, but rather would vouchsafe the supputation of the same out of the grounds thereof.

Astrōlogickall discourse.

of. For although it be thought sufficient, in the supputation of an Ephemerides to come, within a minute, two, or three. of the true place of the Planet at none, yet is it to be otherwise requyred in this behalfe. For not onely to know the degree and minute is requisite herein, but also the second, where, in the sayde coniunction shall at any time happen. For as much as they may be both coniorned together in one degree, and same minute, the space of five houres at least, before the true coniunction, or no lesse tyme after the same, though the slownesse of their motions. All which considered, I haue here set downe according to my simple skill, the figure thereof, so neere the truth as I possibly coulde. Which though I dare not warrant the exact minute of time, yet of the hour, I am well assured that no way I am deceined, so as much as it hath bin supputated out of the grounds,

A confutation of an
 esteeming the same to bee with vs
 at London, the twentieth ninth day of
 April, at three a clocke in the mo:ning,
 vnder such a position as fol-
 loweth.



This constellation happeneth in the
 first minute of the 22. degree of
 Pisces,

Astrologicall discourse.

Pisces, the last signe of the Zodiacke, and in the latter part of the twelfth house, which is termed of *the Astronomers. Domus tristitie, laboris, ætumnæ, meroris, inimicitiarum, inuidie, infurrectionis, carceris, seruorum, deceptorum, animalium magnorum, &c.* And whether it ought to seeme so fearefull and terrible vnto vs, as it is thought by some, we are to examine. And for asmuch as it is a conjunction of the very best and worst of all the Planets: we ought well to consider, whether *Saturne* in his mallice and mischief, be able and of sufficient power to subdue the influence of *Iupiter*; and those good haps by him signified. And in as much as they twain, are not all in all, hauing to doe wholly in all causes, it is therefore requisite and needfull, ioyntly to consider with them, the Dominion and authoritie of the rest in order, as following.

FOR:

A confutation of an

FORTITVDINES.

Liber directus, velox, orientalis, auctus lumine & numero, receptus a ioue in domum, coniunctus Ioui, in domo gaudij, in quarta conformi, in gradu lucido.

¶ est

DEBILITATES.

Peregrinus, in 12, desc. in eccentrico, & in meridiem, in gradu vacuo & in contrarietate haiz.

Directus, velox, auctus lumine & numero, in domo propria, in conformi quarta, gradu lucido, coniunctus cum stella fixa de natura fortunæ, orientalis, liber.

¶ est

Desc. in epicyclo, eccentrico, & in meridiem, coniunctus saturno, in 12. in gradu vacuo, in contrarietate haiz.

Directus, asc. in epicyclo, & eccentrico, in conformitate sexus & quartæ, in gradu augere fortunam, liber a combustione.

¶ est

Tardus, minutus lumine & numero peregrinus, in sexta, in contrarietate haiz, occidentalis.

Asc. in eccentrico auctus numero, in suo haiz, in conformi quarta, in textili iouis, in horoscopo.

¶ est

Tardus, peregrinus.

Directa

Astrologicall discourse.

♄ est { Directa, velox, asc. in eccent, aucta
lumine & numero, occidentalis, in 2.
domo, in conformi quarta, gradu
lucido, lib. a combustione.
Desc. in epici, in contrarietate hanc,
pergrina.

♄ est { Liber, directus, velox, asc. in epici, in
horoscopo.
Desc. in eccent, & in merid, perigri-
nus, in gradu vacuo.

♄ est { Libera a combus. in facie propria,
recepta, in suo hanc, in conformi
quarta, gradu lucido & augente for-
tunam.
Tarda, desc. in epici, & eccent, minu-
ta lumine & numero, in 8. domo, in
quadrato saturni.

And now to come to the purpose,
these former considerations warr.
if we compare the fortitude of Sa-
turne with his debilities, we shall
then find that he is strong (*propor-
tione sesquialtera*) his strengths be-
ing above thirtie, his debilities, on-
ly 20. wherefore I may safely say,
he is well affected, well situated, and
very well configurate: no lesse may
be thought of Jupiter, though not
having

A confutation of an

hauiing the same fortitudes and debilities in all pointes, yet the like in number, and same proportion, and are both as witnesleth Cardan. *In primo & optimo statu, robustissimi, quia orientales, veloces & aparentes.*

“ Therefore it were very grosse to
“ conclude *♄ Saturn* shold be so hatefull
“ so hurtful, so dispitefull, or so malicious by his force and authority,
“ to overcome and subdue the good
“ nature, the sweete influence, and
“ prosperous irradiation of the benevolent and friendly Planet *Jupiter*. Upon his trial, who is found in all respectes to be as strong, as able, as manlike, and as mighty as himselfe, and hauing him at home in his owne house, hee may either entreate him as a friend, or else (*de iure*) commaunde him as a guest to be ruled, and be of good behauiour, yeelding the superiority vnto his
“ Host, without causing great abundance of waters, cold weather, wanted mischiefs, sorow, enuie,
“ Debate,

Astrologicall discourses.

debate, quarrelling, hate, strife,
lawing for the goods of the dead,
reconinges, accountes, or such like,
the rather because hee is neither in
the right, neither hath any domi-
nion therein, nor beholdeth Mars
the Lord of the cuspe of the same:
for Leo and Pisces no way beholds
the one the other. And whereas he
threatneth through the influence of
Saturne, vpproes, tumultes, many
fold troubles, violence and oppres-
sion, he greatly mistaketh the mat-
ter, for that they are rather the ef-
fects of the outrageous, fell, and fu-
rious Planet Mars, who in the
conjunction hath little or nothing
to doe. But if therebpon hee had
threatned hunger, want, penurie,
and povertie vnto the poore and in-
digent, his prediction had not been
vnlike to haue taken effect, for that
their estate is neuer better, and
why he should discomfourt the Cler-
gie or Ecclesiasticall estate, I see no
cause considering that Iupiter their
ge-

A Confutation of an

generall significator (as also Dominus 9. of the figure) is so strong and well affected, both in himselfe and his essentiall dignities, elevated above the rest, and also small reason he hath, to moue him to pronounce
“ the ruine and ouerthrow of Noble
“ men, great personages and gentle-
“ men, though some and sundry from time to time fall into like extremities, and bee ouerthrowne with the losse of estimation, goods and lyfe, by the secret working of their owne pryuate natiuities, without anye generall constitution. But were it so, that Saturne (as he sayth hee is) were disposed to worke straunge feates, or to bring greates matters about: yea, and that his might were so much, and his malice so great, as to shew the full force of his mischieuous and malicious nature, seeking to bring vpon the world, plague, pestilence, famine, and other calamities whatsoener, which haue at any tyme since the
crea-

Astrologicall discourse.

creation thereof, hapned for the punishment of sinne: yet could he not at this present play these pageants, being otherwise bypiled and restrained of his will, for that he is neither Lord of the coniunction, neither hath dominion in the revolution of the yeare, nor ought to doe in the gouernement of the great Orb, or anye commertion with those who haue authoritie therein. Therefore if any alteration extraordinary happen in the yeares following, different from the others past, it must of necessitie rise and proceed of some more farther cause, then any alleadged in al the whole Astrologicall discourse: for as much as there is not anye one *Maxime* therein alleadged, that may not seeme. *Pecile quiddam*. not worth the hazarding of any small credite in Astrology, that hath beene already purchased (els how can one lose that he neuer had). And for the better proofe of these my speeches,

A confutation of an

ches, consider what is by him al-
leaged. *Iupiter* on whom some part
of the charge is layd, shall begin to
shrink the tenth of *Iuly*, and goe
backward, whereby his influence
shoulde bee hindered, which is no-
thing materiall. For why the comb-
bat (the conjunction I meane) be-
ing fought & past long before, it is
requisite that the combattants doe
retire and repose them selves in a
ray, returning backe from whence
they came, which well they may do
without any kind of impeachment
or discredit in this respect. Besides
it is a passion which hapneth vnto
them every yeare once, which they
can not possibly auoyde. When so
thinks, or bee perswaded that *Sa-
turne*, *Iupiter*, or any other of the
Errours can be or shall be, those sines
or five yeares next ensuing, eyther
oftener retrograde then heretofore
they haue bene, or than common-
ly they vse to be, is most absurde
& chydish, and argueth that whome
soener

Astrologicall discourse.

Doener is of that opinion can be but
a simple Astrologian, not seene at
all in the Theory of the Planettes,
nor well acquainted with Coperni-
cus his Hypotheses, Reinholds obser-
vationes, or Peurbachius. Forasmuch
as it is a position or rule infallible
that a Planet cannot passe by his
first station above once, while hee
maketh his revolution in his epicy-
cle, & by it he must of necessity once
passe, and the *tempus periodicum* of
his revolution is certain, constant,
and without alteration. Where-
fore, if hee ever see Saturne oftener
retrograde, then once in twelue
moneths and eighteen daies (men-
ses solares I mean) or Iupiter in 13.
moneths and 9. daies, Mars, in 2.
years and 2. moneths, Venus in one
yeare 7. moneths and 14. daies,
Mercury in 3. moneths & 26. daies,
or if he can find that they escape re-
trogradation in any of those pre-
scribed times, then let me lose the
credits of mine Astrology, unless it
please

A confutation of an

please the almighty to work miracles more in these 6. yeares following. the in 1600. yerres heretofore: and were his meaning no lesse, yet were it doubtfull, whether the author of the Astrological discourse. were a *conflijs illius*, and p^rintse to his intent. But admit it were as he saith, that they were oftner retrograde then in times past, and that which is more then so, that the sun stood still, or went backward, contrary to his naturall motion: yet were it no argument therupon to inferre the dissolution of the world, or ende of the same: considering that in the time of *Iosua*, the Sunne stood still: and in the tyme of *Ezechias*, the Sunne went backe: and the world notwithstanding continuing after the space of threene hundred yerres, and not so little. And whereas he also sayth, that the 26. day of October they are almost in coniunction again. I answer that almost neuer won the game, nor almost did neuer

17

Astrologicall discourse.

mer hit þ nail on the head, & although they bee in application, yet is the same but *applicatio auersa*, and is prevented by refraction, afore they come to the full coniunction: and as for their situation in the 10. house, at the Sunn his entrance into *Libra*, in the thirde part of the Astro-
nomicall yeare: it cannot any way increase the hurt, sith they haue no dominion in the said yeare, for how can he gouerne a part, that is excluded from the whole. And to returne to the constitution of the other Planets, which are supposed to help for ward this cause, & play their parts in this tragedy. *Mars* is the man most suspected herein: who though he be peregrine, yet by his dignities corquall with his debilities, and therefore become indifferent and of a meane disposition, who although he be in *Leo*, yet is he not in *Caedemon*, neither is he any way so greatly disgraced or euil affected, where by it shoulde be thought to pretend
any

A confutation of an

“ any such wonderfull contention, les-
“ dition, treason, rebellion, warres,
“ tumults, mutines or bproes,
“ with horrible slaughter and blood-
shed, but rather warranteth there-
by, this his terrible prediction and
fearefull prognostication to passe
like a shadowe, or vanishe like a
smoke, not unlike quicksilver mol-
ten at y^e fire, or as y^e crack of a Can-
non charged without a bullet, only
making a fearful noise, and causing
no further harm. He saith also ther-
“ upon, that great multitudes shalbe
“ spoiled, subdned, destroyed & murtho-
“ red, by the enemy y^e should oppresse
“ them with the sword & fire, and o-
“ ther tragical mischeifs & notorious
“ calamities, to be presaged to some
“ mighty ruler or gouernor, appoin-
“ ted in high dignitie or supreme au-
thoritie. *Mars* being neither in the
I. O. nor hauing dominion therein.
Furthermore, he supposing *Mars*
to be Lord of the 9. house, inferreth
thereupon euill successe to the clea-

Astrological discourse.

gy, whereas in truth *Mars* hath no-
 thyng to doe in the same, neither is
Mercury there unluckily apointed,
 or lately of hym discomforted or dis-
 couraged with a hatefull square as-
 pect, but rather receiued with a trine
 into his house, which can by no mea-
 nes fortheue any persecution of the
 Clergy, or any disquiet thereby,
 what soeuer is signified otherwise.
 Likewise *Mars* in *Leo*, not in $\text{p} 12$.
 house frō the ascendente (as he would
 haue hym) can not threaten losse or
 destruction in those kindes of beasts
 that haue bones, hornes, and fliceres,
 nor hinder the increase of Waspes,
 Pistons, Caterpillers, Cymonan-
 tes, and vermin: but that thei should
 abound to much (if it pleased not God
 otherwise to hinder the same) who
 because he is not seated in the eigth
 house from the Poone, *Ipsē non si-*
gnificat interfectiones & infirmitates
magna in hominibus. Whereouer, the
 Sunne being not Lord of the As-
 cendent, nor resident in the 10. house
 C. i. but

A confutation of an

but Lord of the first, and situate in the
ascendent, sheweth that he should im-
plore his influence farre otherwise
then to busie hymself, with causing
much trouble, vexation or sorowe,
to Noble men, or Honourable perso-
nages: much lesse to thrust any Ma-
gistrates out of Office, depprue them
of their dignities, or place other in
their roomes: though some may feele
these inconueniences threatened in-
to them, but by some particular and
priuate cause, as is before mentioned.
Likewise, *Venus* no Lady of the 10.
house, though peregrine, not cōbust,
and in the 2. house, meaneth to be no
partaker with the Sunne herein,
though he bee in her house: yet is she
from home, minding to visit her olde
frende *Mars* with a sextile aspecte,
intending to make some banquet or
good cheare, whereby to helpe away
with the substance that els would
rust, rather then to forshewe the bad
estate not onely to Princes, but of
their subiectes likewise: whiche bad
estate

Astrological discourse.

estate ineth he, shall be founde in the
 Countries that be situate betweene
 the East and the West, a sentence
 worthy the notyng: for it contayneth
 muche matter, and is most like to be
 truest of al his predictions: for if any
 suche thyng happen in any place of
 the whole worlde, he thereby hits it.
 For what place is there vnder the
 Sunne, whiche is not betweene the
 East and West, and if he had like-
 wise saied betweene the Northe and
 the South, or betweene the Earth &
 the Sky, he should haue left no place
 of the worlde vnconsidered: for with-
 in the twoo extremes, of either these
 three euen distances, not onely the v-
 niuersal earth, but the whole is com-
 prised, and by including the whole he
 can not lightly misse a parte. And
Venus, if she were in the 11. house, as
 she is in the 2. is not there weakened,
 or vnluckely affected, for that shee
 hath 23. strengthes to helpe her selfe
 withall, onely 9. debilities to bee de-
 ducted: and if it may helpe, rather she
 C.ii. is

A confutation of an

is in optimo statu, quia apparet in or-
in vespertino, & velox cursu, satis e-
nough from the Poone *Catabiba-*
zon: and therefore can not signifie
“ that subtile dissemblyng & false pac-
“ kyng amongst men, or want of faith
“ full and sounde freendship, or muche
“ counterfeite and fained amitie, or
“ curteous dealing, fallshood, breache
“ of freendship, hate, discord, strife, diui-
“ sion or factions, &c. *Itaq; after Haly,*
“ *Destructionem futuram in malieri-*
“ *bis, neque presagit leguminiu cari-*
“ *ratem*: because she not infornate in
the 11. house. And as for *Mercury*,
as he is not nere his 2. station by 25.
degrees, so is he not in the house of
Religion, or long iourneyes, though
peregrine in *Aries*, his place is in
the Ascendent, and hath not to signi-
fie muche iourneyng or remouyng:
for although he bee *Connrribilis &*
mobilis, yet he is slowe of course, and
therfore by that *Arologicall* reason,
can not signifie trauellng or iour-
neyng. Also *Mercury* hauing no-
thng

Astrological discourse.

thyng to doe in the 7. house, nor as-
 pecting the cuspe of the same, cannot
 inferre sundrie greevances, violent ,,
 Robberies, Spoyles, wilfull Mur- ,,
 thers, and cruel manslaughters. For ,,
Mercury his influence, when he hath
 to doe therem, is rather to incline the
 euill disposed to secrete filching, pri-
 uate picking, purloining, pilferie, and
 petty lasseny, then vnto forcible brea-
 ches, riots, or violent Robberies. And
 that the same configuration, should ,,
 cause irreligious, impious, obstinate ,,
 wicked, stubboine, & disorderly per-
 sons to abound: the marueile were
 not greate, considering the worlde
 lacketh them not at this present, nor
 hath not wanted them in former a-
 ges: howbeit *Mercury* (who is *Con-*
uertibilis natura) changing himself
 into the nature and dispositiō of hym
 whom he most pertily aspecteth, who
 is the Poome, in this behalf, can pro-
 duce no suche effect, no more then a- ,,
 ny other kinde of infortune vnto the ,,
 estate of Embassadours, Secreta- ,,
 C.iii. rics,

A confutation of an

ries, Notaries, Registers, Clerkes,
Scriueners, Percers, and those e-
specially of the learned sort, which
is no way to bee feared, considering
that *Mercury* their Significator, is
both strong in himself, and in the po-
sition of the Figure: and as for busie
minded fellows, and factious heads
wedded to their owne conceits, I
haue no doubt, but that they are like-
wise wedded to their owne sorrowes
and harmes, for that the busie man
necuer wanteth woe. But to come
now to the Poone, who being nei-
ther peregrine, for that she is in *ſuo*
Decano, neither in opposition with
Venus, but ſeperating from the trine
of *Mars*: neither ſhe being Ladie
of the tenth house, but of the ſeconde:
it were againſt reaſon to thinke, that
ſhe ſhould in that conſtellation ſhe
any heauie calamities, imprison-
mentes, diſturbances, tribulations,
thought, anguiſhe, and ſorrowe vnto
the common people: ſo that in very
truthe, there is not one Aphorisme in
the

Astrological discourse.

the whole tract, that agreeth with þ
figure of the true Coniunction: then
how is it possible to pronounce *ex
falsis verum*. Neither is it hereby to
be thought, that the Commons shall
carrie either disloyall, disobedient,
or rebellious hartes towardes their
gouernors. And though the world be
wickedly giue, yet it is not like that
any should bee so unfaithfull to their
Prince, or unnaturall to their Cōs-
trei, as to disquiet the cōmon wealth
therof, unlesse it be some suche, whose
significatours of their Natiuities be
infortunatly situate, *in signis odio so
obedientibus*, whiche from the begin-
nyng, as thei haue unhappely be-
gunne their Insurrections and Re-
bellions, so haue thei infortunatly
proceeded, and miserablie ended the
same. I praie GDD with my whole
harte, that all so mynded and dispo-
sed, maie come to the like successe in
the ende, as no doubt they shall
through GDD his Justice, had this
Coniunction neuer been. And for

A confutation of an

“ as muche as the Sunne, beyng *A-*
“ *nima Mundi*, is not become *Mala-*
“ *ficus*, neither the Fiery triplicitie in-
“ fortunate, neither the Digne of the
“ eleuenth and fift house, wherein the
“ Poone can no way bee placed, nei-
“ ther *Saturne* in the eight, nor *Lozde*
“ of the sixth and seauenth house, his
“ iudgement dependyng therevppon,
“ together with other incidentes of
“ that Figure by hym erected, are will-
“ lingly (as vnnedefull) for breuitie
“ sake omitted, and had been here unto
“ small purpose recited, but as hee is
“ verely perswaded that there is no
“ Countrey, or Nation, shall beholde
“ the same Coniunction unpunished:
“ so am I certainly assured, that he is
“ greatly deceiued: and were it so, that
“ it extended the force and significatio
“ thereof, unto the first and second Cl-
“ imate (whiche is *Per Mercon E-*
“ *thopia, & per Syon Agypti sub Tra-*
“ *pico Cancri*) it is no doubt farre dif-
“ ferent from the 8. Climate, and 18.
“ 19. and 20. *Paralels*, wherein this our
“ Count.

Astrological discourse.

Countrey lyeth, neither are *Pisces*,
Gemini, *Virgo*, or *Sagittary*, signes
that ascendent, or Horoscopically in-
to all the Countreies and Cities of
the whole worlde: neither *Saturne* or
Jupiter, *Dij topici omnibus gentibus*:
and therefore the influence of this
Coniunction not to stretche ouer all
the worlde, nor vpon al sortes of peo-
ple in the same: For the omnipotent
and almightie *Iehonah*, who sitteth
aboue bothe Planettes and Starrie
Firmament, and rules them at his
wil and pleasure, hath ordeined them
as well to bee signes and tokens of
his mercie and loue towardes vs his
chosen and elected, as of his wrath
and iustice towarde the wicked & re-
probate, vpon whom he neuer brought
any iust scourge or punishment for
their sinnes and wickednesse, but he
first called them to repentance, by
some suche fearefull signes and to-
kens: if the same might haue pearred
their obstinate and stony hartes. But
to come to the Authour his per:iculer

C.v. Judge-

A confutation of an

Judgements, as touching weathers,
and suche like accidentes. Nothyng
there is therein contained more paise
woorthy, then the reste before mentio-
ned. And whereas vpon the conuent
and assemblie of the Planettes, hap-
penyng in the Moneth of *April*, in
the yere of our Lorde 1584. in the
Signe of *Aries*, at what tyme *Sa-*
turne and *Iupiter* shall forsake the
Signe *Pisces*, is promised a Comet
immediatly to ensue. I plainly saie,
it is a verie weake argument where-
vpon to inferre suche a greate matter
and accident by, as by the induction
of Histories will bee proued. In the
yere of our Lorde GOD 1505. in
the latter ende of *Iuly*, there was as-
sembled the *Sonne*, the *Moone*, *Sa-*
turne, *Iupiter*, *Venus*, and *Mercur-*
rie, in *Leo*, a fierie signe: after whiche
there followed no Comet. Again, in
the yere of our Lorde God 1544. in
the middelt of *November*: there was
Saturne, *Iupiter*, *Sol*, *Venus*, *Mer-*
curie, *Luna*, all conuented in *Sagit-*
tario,

Astrological discourse.

arie, a fierie signe as the former, after whiche there followed no Comet at all. Likewise in the yere of our Lorde God 1564. in the ende of Iune there was *Saturne*, *Jupiter*, *Mars*, *Venus*, and *Mercurie*, assembled in *Leo* a fierie signe, and the first before mentioned: After the whiche there followed no Comette, Drought, or Peate, but rather greate floodes and inundatibz, increasynge the Riuer of *Thames* in suche sort, that it ouerflowed the marshes, and drowned muche cattell: and also the same yere there insued a verie cold and hard Winter in so muche that the riuer of *Thames* was frozen ouer, the like whercof hath not been seen at any tyme since nor in many yeares before. As also *Ouse* bridge at *Torke*, carried awaie with the force of the *Ile* at the same tyme; *Pombelt*, *Leonitus* promised a Comet, and the contrary weather, who was therein deceiued, & so maie, other presumyng no lesse. And as for the Comette, whiche appeared

A confutation of an

“ in the yeare of our Lord 1556. in the
beginnyng of *March*, it coulde not
any way be signified or forthe told by
that assembly, that the was in *Aries*:
for that the saied Comett appeared
before there was any more entered
into *Aries* then three, who were *Sa-*
turnus, *Mars*, and *Venus*: and there-
fore I may safely conclude, that the
saied blazynge Starr or Comet, was
no more caused thereby, then that
whiche happened after þ meeting in
Leo, in þ yere 1434. or þ which hap-
pened before þ death of *Charlemaine*
Anno domini, 814. after their con-
course in *Sagittary*. Wherefore, whē
a Comet is to be presaged, *debet ali-*
unde peti, & therfore dare I not giue
any consent, to thinke that we shall
haue a Comet 1584. vpon that Astro-
logicall conclusion, and slender rea-
son before mentioned. For whē, I am
certainely perswaded, that they are
ingendred vpon some other farther
cause: for that in the yere of our Lord
God 1573. when there was no con-
course

Astrological discourse.

course of Planettes in fierie signes,
 there appeared a straunge Comet in
 the Asterisme of *Cassiopeia*, toward
 the North parte of the worlde, in the
 Moneth of *October*, whiche was of
 long continuance. And again, in the
 yere 1580, in the moneth of *Novem-*
ber, there appeared an other toward
 the South-west, which lasted þ space
 of a fortnight, & appeared very great
 whē as there was no meetyng of the
 Planettes in any of the fierie signes,
 at, or immediately before the same.
 Furthermore, it is saied by hym, that
 in the Moneth of *April*, 1584, there
 should be excessive cold, and extreme
 heate, caused by the Coniunction of
Saturne and *Mars* in *Pisces*, and *Jup-*
iter and *Mars* in *Aries*, whiche is
 a thyng very absurd: for al mē know,
 that two extremes do make a meane,
 and two contrarie causes the one cō-
 summes the other, and they both bring
 forth a third: as scaldyng hot water,
 and extreme colde, doe make luke
 warme. As cōcerning the iudgemēt
 of

A confutation of an

“ of the yeare 1585. it is not to be
thought, that the assemblie in *Aries*,
should pul on the effect of a Coniun-
ction that was before in *Pisces*, a wa-
trie signe, and of a contrary Elemēt,
and fire & water so hardly agreeing;
as also, for that *Transitus* (as the A-
stronomers tearme it) is the least of
“ all the influences. Againe, where as
“ it is saied, that thei whiche haue in
“ their Natiuities the Ascendent, the
“ Sunne, the two superiours Planets,
“ or the Lorde of the Ascendent or Na-
“ tiuitie in *Aries*, *Inprimis, ad choros*
“ *caelestes inuitabuntur, aliquidq; noni-*
“ *momentum*: and that *Germany & Italy;*
“ with other Countries subiect to *A-*
“ *ries*, should beware of greuous ca-
lamities, chaunces and chaunges;
it is farre against reason to thinke
that any Constellation should fore-
shewe generall calamities to whole
Countries, and particular prefer-
mentes to priuate persons, bothe be-
yng vnder the gouernement of one
and the same signe. As touchyng the
con-

Astrological discourse.

continuance of the former effectes,
 even as the coniectures of them are
 very slender, so is the text of *Cardane*
 very weake to this purpose: *Effectus*
durant vsq; ad reditū, vtpote contin- ,,
etio Saturni & Iouis, vsq; ad alia con- ,,
iunctionē: whereby his meanyng is, ,,
 that it should last the tearme & space ,,
 of 20. yeres following, whereas it is
 recorded amōg them of no small cre-
 dite in this science, that the significa-
 tions vpon the chaunge of a *Trigon*,
 hath been sometimes deferred untill
 the 3. or 4. Coniunction followyng,
 which is a 60. or 80. yeaeres from the
 same, or it take effect, and hath not la-
 sted aboue 7. or 8. yeaeres in effecte.
 But to come to the comparison of
 this Coniunction with others here-
 tofore. The Coniunction which was
 in *Cancer* in *November*, that shewed
 the generall Deluge, called *Noahs*
 floud, had other accidents cōcurring
 with the same, which did aggravate
 the force thereof, as these. The Con-
 iunction was in *Cancer*, whiche then
 like

A confutation of an

likewise was the signe of the greate Orbe, & Saturne was then lord of þe greate Orbe, and was there far worse disposed then at at this present, for as muche as thē he was *Tardus motu, prope stationē, in detrimētō*, as well as *Peregrine*, &c. & being so many waies lord and gouernor of the whole, and so diuersly feebled and weakened, no maruell though so greate effecte did then followe, suche as the world shall neuer see again: neither þe like constellation in all respectes. As for the *Roman Monarchie*, & his beginning, which happened after a conjunction in *Scorpio*, (but fortie yere before the beginning of the fierie Trigon at the leaste) whiche Conjunction of it self could as then haue doen naught, had there not been a little before, a course of Orbes, þe head of *Aries*, *orthosius orbis*, being in longitude to *Aries noni orbis*, and beginning as then to make a new reuolutiō, which is *Res magna scalo*, as witnesseth *Cardane*. Furthermore, þe signe of þe great Orb
at

Astrologicall discourse.

at y same time was *Aquarie* which Orbe was as then newly begunne, and *Saturn* Lord of the sayde Orbe, who did by a square aspect, beholde the signe of the great Orbe *ex signis se odiose intuentibus*. All which considered, there is moze cause to think that then there should follow some notable subuersion, rather then now, when as none of the like accidents do any way concur, againe it is no reason to thinke that the watry Trygon, which beganne the fourth Monarchy, should likewise finish the same: *Quia idem non potest esse causa generationis & corruptionis*. And as touching the coniunction, which was five yeres befoze the blessed and happye byrth of our saviour Christ, the which *Leuini* putteth in *Pisces*, *Cardane* affirmeth the same to be in the thyrde degree of *Aries*, and the fiery Trygon already begun, which contrariwise of theyr (being men excellently read and learned) I referre to my bet.

A confutation of an
betters to decide. Lastly in the time
of *Carolus magnus*, the *Trygon* chan-
ging into *Aries*, came as then into
the signe of the great *Orbe* and Do-
minion of *Mars*. And sth that by
p2ocesse of time, we are now come
again to the ende of the watry *Tri-
gon*, and beginning of the fierpe, it
is requisite besoze we shal presume
by Astrologically coniecture, to as-
sume y the ende and consumation
of the world, shoulde be in the yere
of our Lord 1588. We shoulde firste
consider whether there happen any
chaunge of the greate *Orbe*, or con-
course of the eyght and ninth *Orbe*,
eyther els the chaunge of any *Abis*
out of one signe into an other. All
which, as *Cardane* witnesseth. *Sun-
res magna in Caelo*. If so bee that
ther be any such cause concurrent,
then is somewhat to bee spoken
thereof, otherwise little to bee ex-
pected. The p2ophesies of the sa-
cred Scriptures firste most reue-
renced and beste considered aboute
the

Astrologicall discourse.

the same, and then the Astrologer
call coniectures compared there-
withall, and carefully foreseeing
that we alleadge not, *Non causam
pro causa*, some reasonable estimate
may bee made thereof. But the day
and houre is vnknowne to the an-
gels of heauen. And so to returne to
the last notable matter by him spe-
cified, which is, that there shall not
appeare vnto vs in our Horizon,
anie Eclipse, of the Sun, or mone
this year. But how greate or how
notable a thing, y^e is to be cōsidered.
I leaue to those y^e are meanely ex-
ercised in Astronomy. Put as tou-
ching the influence of the Eclipse
of the Sunne, that was in Cancer,
the last yeare 1582, whereof there
is wonders promised, we are to ex-
amine. And first the cause of an E-
clipse well knowne, we are to con-
sider the quantitie of the Eclipse,
and the continuance of the same.
Leonitius at Augusta, putteth it to
be the twentieth of Iune, at foure
2 of

A confutation of an
of ½ clock, fiftie thre minutes in the
morning, and thre poyntes seven
minutes darkened, and continued
an houre & twentie two minutes.

Mastlin for *Tubing*, affirmeth it to
be at foure of ½ clock fiftie minutes,
and but two poynts foure minutes
darkned, and lasted an houre and
fourteen minutes. And *Stadius*
for *Amvery* hath it at foure of the
clock fourtie two minutes: But
not so much as one sixt part of one
point darkned, no; of any continu-
ance at all, but onely a touch as it
were.

Wherefore if they which dwel in
longitude, thirtie degrees, and haue
the pole eleuated fortye eight de-
grees, had it thre points darkned, &
they in longitude thirtie one de-
grees, vnder the eleuation of four-
ty nine degrees, had but two points
darkned. Likewise they that dwel
in longitude twentie six degrees vnder
the eleuation of fiftie one de-
grees, sawe nothing at all. *How*

is

Astrologicall discourse.

is it possible that they which are in longitude nineteene Degrés , vnder the elevation of fiftie two Degrés , should see any thing. And so; because the surreption of light is the groundes wherby to iudge of the events : I thought good to take the paines , to proue by the principles of the Art, whether there were any surreption in our Horizon or no, with the rest of the circumstances therunto apertayning. Wherby it may appeare to any that is studious or desirous to come to the truthe thereof , in manner as followeth.

de. Hæ. mi. 2

Visibilis coniunctio solis & Lunæ. — 19. 16. 30. 11.
 Distantia vera coniunctionis a visa. — 0. 0. 59. 8.
 Coniunctio vera. — 19. 17. 30. 0.
 Anomalia solis annua. — sex. 5. 58. 39. 39.
 Anomalia lunæ Corrupta. — 4. 5. 8. 19.
 Motus verus latitudinis. — 1. 37. 13. 20.
 Distantia solis ac lunæ a vertice. — gra. 56. 26. 0.

Paralaxis { Lunæ ad solem. — 0. 0. 55. 23
 Longitudinis lunæ ad solem. 0. 0. 33. 50
 Latitudinis lunæ ad solem. 0. 0. 46. 47.
 Latitudo

A confutation of an

		mi	6
Latitudo lunæ vera.	bor. o.	14.	13.
Latitudo lunæ viſa.	Auſt. o.	32.	16.
Semidia meter	{ ſolis viſualis. —o. o.	15.	49.
	{ lunæ viſualis. —o. o.	16.	53.
Congeries ſemidia metrorum.	—o. o.	32.	42.
Digitus ecliptici.	—digit. o.	9.	32.
Tempus inſidentis.	—ho. o.	5.	0.

Whereby it may evidently ap-
peare that there was ſcant
the ſixt parte of one pointe of the
Sunnes body eclypſed, what ſoe-
uer was ſeene at Cambridge, be-
fore whomſo ever, unleſſe they
had their *Oſſa ingalia nimium exten-
ſa*. As *Cornelius Gemma* had, when
he conſidered the Comet that was
in *Caſſiopeia*, which made them ſee
the thing which was not, els had
they not *Nervum opticum bene diſ-
poſitum*, which made that ſmall
darkenelle to appeare ſixteene
tymes bigger then it was, and the
obſcuration beeing but the ſixte
parte of one poynt, is a thing of
nope account at all, as the ſe-
quell ſhewed. For that ſmall in-
fluences

Astrologicall discourse.

influence that it had, began the first
day of July, lasted two monethes,
and ended the seventh of September
following in the same yeare.
Wherefore the effectes thereof can
not by any *Astrologicall* reason be
deferred till May 1583, and so con-
tinue a yeare. Thus is there nei-
ther good nor bad can bee aspected
from this Eclipse. As for the com-
paring with other Eclipses is
needlesse. But one example muste
not be omitted. If this Eclipse had
beene darkned three pointes as it
was not (thogh he so say there) In , ,
the yeare sayth he, 1536. the 13. day , ,
of June, at one of the clocke after , ,
none was an eclipse of the Sun in , ,
the seventh degree of Cancer, the , ,
sun was darkned eight pointes al-
moste. with them at Tubing, but
much lesse with vs at London, and
from the beginning to the end. la-
sted two houres and sixe minutes.
The effectes whereof began in
January following, the tenth day,

A confutation of an
and lasted two yeeres, which de-
clareth that this Eclipse could not
foreshew the two great commoti-
ons, that were in Lyncolnshire
and Yorkshire, which were bothe
of them begun & ended in October
before the influence of this eclipse
tooke place, at least the space of 2.
monethes. But for confirmatiō of
Art, let vs see what happened fro
January 1537 till January 1539.
When as the influence of this E-
clipse raged. In February there
was stirred a rebellion, wherein
Carlisle was besieged. In April af-
ter ther was a cōmotion in Som-
mersetshire, about taking bp of
Cozne, and there was from the be-
ginning to the ende, about sixtye
persons executed and put to death
for treason, rebellion, and denying
the Kinges Supremacy: of which
number there was a Parquesse,
thre Lordes, sixe Knightes, thre
Abbotes and a Ladye, that was
hient in *Smithfield* (*Quia Eclipse*
fit

Astrologicall discourse.

sis fuit in decima domo regis, & prope locum solis apheta sua genesis) If we may give credit to Cardane, al so in y^e time there were sundry abbeyes suppressed, y^e black Fryers, the white Fryers & the Monches of Charterhouse, soone after all the rest, (*Quia in nona domo qua est domus religionis*) As for any dearth or scarcity, sicknesse or mortalitye, I reade of none y^e followed, neither of inundations or floods but great hurt by fire was done in London amongst y^e basketmakers in Rood Lane, where twelue houses and nine persons were burnt in the space of thre howers, besides frier Forrest and other that were bzent in Smithfield, and a great many of Images (for auoidig of Idolatry) were burnt at Chelsey (*Mars ferio bat gradū Eclipticu quadrato breuis unū*) Likewise on a sūday at y^e sermo time, appeared at Pauls Crosse the Rood of grace, and there moued the mouth and lips, very straungly

A confutation of an

lie. But it was brought thither out of Kent, and with sundry deuises made so to doe. Afterwarde by the same Preacher the Bishop of Rochester was shewed the blond of Hales, and proued to be no bloud, but clarified hony mixte with Saffron. And lastly, to conclude and to shew, that some good as well as ill, may be foreshewed by an Eclipse, as wel priuately, as publiquely, particularly, as generally. Ther were (during y^e influence of that Eclipse) 18. States created and aduanced. Also the vertuous and Godly Prince Edward, afterwarde king Edward the first was bozne, a great ioye to the whole Lande. Also the Bible in english was set in euery Church of the Realme for all men to read: And thus much for the confutation of the Astrologicall discourse and positions therein contained. And for as much as it is not thought sufficient for any one to reprehend or reprove the doinges and
and

Astrologickall discourse.

and proceedings of other writers
 vntlesse after confutation of their
 erroure made, hee seemeth further
 to adde of his owne, somewhat ei-
 ther more Substantiall in doc-
 trine, reasonabler in hearing, or
 with the truth of the matter bet-
 ter agreeing. I haue there vpon
 thought it not amisse, to followe an
 order and platfourme of iudgement
 in the declaration hereof vled by
 Ptolomy, and other learned wry-
 ters of later tyme. Whercin it is
 first requisite to vnderstand, who
 at this present is Lorde of the
 great Orbe, what the signe of the
 same is, as also the degree pro-
 sectionall, and the diuisor thereof.
 Likewise the Ascendent of the con-
 iunction, and reuolution, and last-
 ly, who hath the Dominion in the
 coniunction, or preuention next and
 immediately going before the same.
 Al which, for the better vnderstan-
 ding of that which followeth, I wil
 briefly in order set down, therby yit
 may

A confutation of an
may appeare, who of these twaine
thus conioined hath most force and
dominion in all or most, of the for-
mer considerations, so that the
continuation simply of it selfe, un-
lesse it hath a further consent of the
premisses, can not pretend or so-
shew any great matter worthy the
penning. Much lesse the alteration
of Kingdomes, the coming of
Christe in iudgement, or consumma-
tion of the world. For as much as
it is a matter usually hapning once
in each twentieth year, four times
in every signe, and twelue times
in every *Trogon* before they flyst,
or change the same. So that with-
in the space of two hundred forty
yeares, they are twelue tymes con-
ioyned together, and not aboue.
And what horrible matters about
twentie yeares last past, in respect
of the former rellted have hapned,
there are none of sufficient yeares,
who are not able to testifie. And
therfore most strange it is, that
the

Astrologicall discourse.

the audacities of every slender student in this science, should be such as upon so small causes so certainly and peremptorily, to pronounce such great and wonderful effects, assuring the same upon his credit. But how so ever his credit be, certaine I am, that thow the like rash, and vnlearned attempts the art it self, hath being greatly discredited. In so much as it is in a manner contemned of the common people: the which was in times past esteemed both of Prince and Potentate in such sort as they became earnest students thereof. Wherefore, it were to be wished, that some of the chiefest *Mathematicians* of this Age, and of this our Country wel learned, and long experienced, would undertake the writing of these, and the like cases, whereby other younger Schollers might bee the more benefited, and the common wealth the better profited. And were there any cause of feare by
this

A confutation of an
this Coniunction portended, it
were more reasonable and conue-
nient, that *Liberati* the Italian,
shoulde rather admonish the king-
dome of France, and Italy his coun-
try, then threaten the realme of
England thereby. For that in the
yere of our Lord 1524. after the like
Coniunction in *Pisces*, the French
king was taken prisoner, at the
Siege of *Paul*, by the Duke of *Boar-*
bon: which in dispiht of the Car-
dinall *Wolsey*, went to Rome, be-
sieged the Citie, his Souldiers
sack and spoiled it, the Pope driven
to fly to y^e castle of *S. Angelo*, wher
hee continued long in calamitye.
The seconde yere after, was a
peace concluded betweene Eng-
land and France, the first yere fol-
lowing was the newe Testament
translated into Englishe by *Wil-*
liam Tindall, and printed: the first
year following, the Pope was ba-
nished. and suite to the courte of
Rome forbidden, and the same year
died

Astrologicall discourse.

died Cardinal *Wolsey*, all which I am perswaded, was no losse to *England*, likewise the cleargy was condemned in the *premunire*. No other great matter happned in this land, by the space of 10. years after that Coniunction. except it were the losse of the holy mayde of *Kent*: who with her complices, *Sponkes*, and *Fryers*, were woorthely executed and put to death, and certaine houses of obseruaunt *Friers* put downe. But to return from whence I first digressed, the signe of the great Orbe at this present, is *Gemini*. The Lady and gouernesse of the Orbe, *Venus*. The degree of the profection the twenty eight of *Libra*, the diuisor *Mars*, the ascendent of the coniunction, the twentie nine degree, and 51. minutes of *Pisces*. The Lady of the hour of the sayd coniunction *Venus*. The Lord and gouernour of the preuention, preceeding *Venus*. Al which considered, it evidently appeareth that

Saturne

A confutation of an

Saturn hath no Dominion in any
of the premises , much lesse in
al, or the most of them. And there-
fore were he *Potentior* *7* one in loco
coniunctionis, as some in confide-
rately have supposed him, yet could
he not at this present, work those
effects by him signified, by reason
of his dissent and disagreement o-
therwise. But according as I els
where promised. I wil first begin
with the doctrine of *Ptolemy*. in the
sixtie three proposition of his *Cen-
siloquium*, whose words are these.
Cum Saturnus Iupiterque cōiūguntur
utrum eorum sublimior sit vide , &
iuxta illius naturā pronuntiato. The
which proposition containeth much
matter, and very difficult in few
words. For by the word coniu-
ction, as some of the learned have
interpreted, he meaneth in the same
place, *Coniunctionem tam secundum*
latitudinem, quā longitudinē. Both
which at this present by great good
hap, in a maner concurre, though
the

Astrological discourse.

the same by the Aucthor bee neglected and omitted. A farther consideration the which notwithstanding of other some there is required herein, the uniting and contactio of their bodies, the which (for that the difference of their Latitudes is more the Semidiameter of their bodies) can not be: for as much as the Semidiameter of the bodie of *Saturne* is but 4. minutes, and the Semidiameter of the bodie of *Iupiter* is 6. minutes, bothe which added together maketh 10. minutes, and the difference of their Latitudes is 26. minutes: Ergo, it appeareth as is saied: and how requisite this third consideration is in the iudgement of corporall Coniunctions: saie thei, the Eclipse of the Sunne and the Moone doth evidently declare. For that whē as the Latitude of the Moone exceedeth the Semidiameter of both their bodies, there happneth no Eclipse, be the Coniunction otherwise neuer so partle, the which opinio althoug

A confutation of an

it bee very reasonable and probable,
yet will I not much stande thereupon,
for that it seldome happeneth to
concurrer with the two former consi-
derations, and yet the Coniunction
pretending matter to insue how be it
it must of necessitie be graunted whē
it so happeneth, to be the more signi-
ficatiue, and of greater effect *Ceteris*
paribus. The second point contained
in the former proposition, is to consi-
der in this Coniunction *Quis eleua-*
tur super alterum, the whiche worde
elevation, for that it is somewhat am-
biguous, is therefore diuersly under-
stoode of sondrie Writers, some ta-
kyng it in one sence and some in o-
ther, as *Trapezantius* commentyng
vpon the same proposition understan-
deth *Per elevationem altitudinis pla-*
netæ in epicyclo, affirming that when
soever two Planets are cōioyned to-
gether, he that is nearest of y^e twaine
vnto the Apogee of his Epicycle, di-
citur eleuatus super alterum, & when
they are of like distaunce frō the for-
mer

Astrological discorde.

inter Apogon: Quod nullus eleuatur supra alterū: And some there are, as Guido, and such like, who referre the same vnto the latitudes of ψ planets so conioyned thus sayng thereof, that if it happen their Latitudes to be both one way and into the North, he whose Latitude is greater to be eleuated aboue the other, but if bothe their Latitudes bee into the South, thē he to be eleuated whose latitude is least of the twaine: If the latitude of the one bee into the North, and the Latitude of the other into ψ South, then he whose Latitude is into the North, is eleuated aboue the other in to ψ South: but if their Latitudes be bothe one way and like much, then he who is ascendent to be eleuated aboue the other descendēt in the same, and when as neither of them haue any Latitude from the Ecliptike, thē none to be eleuated aboue the other, and a third sorte there are who consider *Per eleuationem, declinationem ab Equatore:* sayng, that in this and

E. ii. the

A confutation of an

the like Coniunctions, it is to be considered, *Quis planetarum habet maiorem declinationem*, whiche if they happen to bee bothe into the North, then he who hath the greatest declination of the twaine is thought to be elevated aboue the other: but if their declination bee into the South, he whose declinatiō is lesse of þ twaine: but if so be that the declination of the one be into the North, and the declination of the other into the South, then he who hath his declination into the North: but if their declinations bee bothe one waie, and equidistant from the Equator, then none to be elevated aboue other, and they seeme to yeeld this reason of their opinion, that he who hath the greater declination of the twaine bothe beeyng into the North, hath likewise the greater altitude Meridian, and therefore cometh of the twaine nearest unto our Zenith or Verticall, the highest and nearest point of our Countrey, but when as their declinations are
bothe

Astrological discourse.

bothe into the South, the reason is contrarie, for that he whose declination is then moste, hath the least altitude Meridian of the twaine, and when their declinations are bothe one waie and like much, then is the altitude Meridian one and the same, and none commeth nearer to our Verticall then the other. A fourth sorte likewise there are, and they no small number, who vnderstande *Perelevationem*, the distaunce of a Planet from the *Apogeon* of his *Eccentriciti*, so that hee who commeth nearest vnto the same, is by them eleuated aboue the other, and if they be bothe equidistaunt from the same, then he who is ascendent in his *Eccentriciti* aboue the other descendyng: but if bothe ascendyng or bothe descendyng and equidistaunt from the same, then none eleuated aboue other, who thinke them selues to haue great reason of their opiniõ, because it is daily seene by y^e Sonne and other Planettes, the nearer they

A confutation of an

some vnto the same, the more they
are eleuated aboue the earth, and
higher and further from vs. A litle
softe there are, who vnderstande elo-
uatione after a farre other maner, re-
ferring the same vnto the essentia-
l dignities of the Planettes, promou-
ling that Planet in any Coniunctiō
to be eleuated aboue the other, who
hath *Plures dignitates in loco coniu-*
ctionis: sayng, that he in reasoū oughte
to haue the superioritie in any suche
case, who hath moste to doe therein:
alleggyng *Ptol.* in his thirde booke
in the tracte *de anima facultatibus*
for their warrant in this behalfe,
whose words are these: *Magna am-*
tem est vis planetarum potentiorum,
& eleuatorum super mercurium &
lunam, where it is euident by that
whiche goeth before the same, as
thus: *Quum autem sunt in proprijs,*
& familiaribus locis, & dignitatibus
planeta gubernantes animi inclina-
tionēs &c. And *Cardane* commen-
ting vpon the said tracte, affirmeth

Astrological discourse.

no lesse. A fixt and last sorte under-
stande Per elenationem altitudinem
planetæ super Horizontem, accom-
 pting that Planett to bee eleuated a-
 boue the other, who is nearest to the
 Meridian of the twaine: As the Pla-
 net in the 12. house aboue an other
 in the ascendent, and one in the 11. a-
 boue the same in the 12. and one in
 the 10. aboue the same in the 11. For
 as much say thei as it is daierly seen,
 that as the Sonne passeth these posi-
 tions and houses, he ascēdeth higher
 and higher untill he come vnto the
 highest poynt thereof, and his heate
 and force in each of the saied poin-
 tes more and more encreasing, untill
 he come at the full Meridian and
 highest poynt from the Horizon.
 And of this opinion is the learned
Leonius in his iudgement *de nati-*
uitatibus in the chapter *de coniugio*,
 his wordes beeyng these: *Saturnus*
proxime supra utramq; significatiri-
um coniugij, stellam (lunam ac ve-
nerem) eleuatus, ita vt nullus, pro-

A confutation of an

*ſaw ; planeta interuenias , & ex loco
maxime ſublimi ſz. medij cæli apice
vtrunque velut deprimens , cõiugium
huic nato denegat : & other late Wri-
ters for the better maintainyng of
this opinion, alledge the aucthoritie
of Ptol. in the thirde Booke in the
tracte de leſionibus , & morbis corpo-
ris . Whole wordes are theſe : Rur-
ſus quando venus eſt in cardinibus
doctus maxime in occid. iuncta Satur-
no , aut cum aſpiciens , aut domicilia
mutarunt , Meri ſuper eum eleuatur
&c. And in the fourth Booke in the
Chapter de facultatibus , alledgyng
theſe wordes following : Consideren-
ſur alij fauſti planetarum aſpectus ad
hos & illi qui eleuantur ſuper hos ex
eadem vel contraria qualitate. And
again in the ſame Booke in the trac-
te de magiſterio as followeth : & cum
benefica ſtella ſit eleuati ſuper domi-
nantes , faciunt magnos glorioſos &c.
Econtra cum malefici eleuantur ſu-
per dominatores , faciunt ſubmiſſos i-
gnobiles , nihil lucrantes &c. In all
whiche*

Astrological discourse.

whiche places alledged it is euident
say thei that the authoꝝ vnderstand,
Per eleuationem, alsiundinem plane-
tae quoad mundum vel Horizon-
sem, by reason of whiche diuersitie
and cōtrarietie of opinions, it is not
a little difficult to determine the ele-
uation or superiority of these twaine
thus conioyned: but for as muche as
the proposition before refuted is take
out of *Pibol* I thincke it most reason-
nable to confirme his meaning here-
in by hymself, and the like wordes vs-
sed of hym els where, takyng *eleua-*
tionem in this place in bothe the sen-
ces by hym alledged, accordyng un-
to bothe whiche it will appeare that
Iupiter is *Sublimior* of the twaine.
First, for that he is in *domo propria*
& *dominus coniunctionis*, & *Saturnus*
hauyng no one dignitie therein, nor
ought to doe in the same. Second-
ly, because hee is *Saturnus eleua-*
tior quoad mundum vel Horizon-
sem, wherof there maie bee some
doubt, considering that thei are both

C.v. in

A confutation of an

in one degree and minute very passionately conioyned, which not withstanding because *Iupiter* his latitude is least of the twaine, his distaunce therefore a *Meridie* must be least of them bothe, and therefore his altitude about the Horizon most, *Es ergo sublimior Saturno*: What then followeth in the former proposition, *Iuxta illius naturam pronunciato*, whereby it is manifest that this said Coniunction of the two superiour followeth the influence, operation, and propertie of the moste happy, prosperous and benevolent Planette *Iupiter*, whose influence and irradiation is not at any tyme to work hurt to any, muche lesse when as he is strong in hymself, well affected, and disposed, and hauyng the prerogative and preheminance about the rest, for whē at any tyme he hath the Dominion and gouernement of an Eclipse, a matter farre more significatiue then this seely and simple Coniunction, considering that the said *Iupiter* the gouernour

Astrologicall discourse.

gouvernor and disposer thereof is neither *dominus ascendētis cōiunctionis*, because the ascendent is the last degree & almost last minute of y^e signe *Pisces*: neither *dominus ascendētis resolutionis*: neither *dominus orbis magni*, nor *preuentiois prox. precedentis*. For *Ptol.* writing and declaring the naturall causes of generall calamities, ascribeth more vnto the Eclipses then vnto any other: thus saying of the, *Prima & efficacissima saluē euentū causa, est copulatio solis & luna in defectibus*: And next after Eclipses, he affirmeth Comets and blasing Starres to haue a greate affect and signification, whereof he thus testifieth in the 28. proposition of his *Centiloquium*. *Traiectiones atque crinita secunda partes in Indicis ferunt*, and yet whensoever this Planette *Iupiter* or *Venus* haue the whole dominion in either of the said places, as they haue in this Cōiunction, they turne the significations thereof, vnto much good & prosperous happe

A confutation of an

happe and effect, as appeareth by the
saied *Pibol*. Thus wityng of þ saied
Jupiter in the seconde Booke in his
tracte *de eclipsibus* there inquiryng,
Quales futuri sunt euentus boni vel
mali. Thus muche affirmyng of the
saied Planette *Jupiter cum solus do-*
minatur, incrementa efficit, cumque o-
uentus ad homines pertinet gloriam,
fertilitatem, tranquillitatem, & pa-
cem significat &c. And no lesse signi-
fication hath the saied *Jupiter* and
Venus, and either of them in the do-
minion of Comettes and Meteors,
as witnesseth *Mixaldus* and others,
who haue witten *de Cometographia*
and were this not so, Comets and
Eclipses could not at any tyme sig-
nifie and pretende good happ and ef-
fect to followe and ensue: the contra-
rie whereof experience doeth testifie:
for as muche as after the appearance
of the Comette in *Libra* the Diur-
nall house of *Venus*, and vnder the
beames and irradiation of the moſte
prosperous and beneuolent Planette
Jupiter

Astrological discourse.

Iupiter, in the Natiuitie of our *Sou-
uour*, there followed greate ioye,
peace and comforte vnto the whole
worlde, and what good effectes
haue insued of Eclipses in parti-
cular Countries, each meane *Chro-
nographer* is able to testifie. If
then in such greate matters as E-
clipses and Comettes, the force of
these Planettes bee suche, vppon
their dominion there, I see no cause
but to hope and expect the like here-
after, the power and authoritie of *Iu-
piter* and *Venus* being no lesse in this
Coniunction, the one *quia dominus*,
the other *quia Almus*, and the same
so muche the rather for that the saied
Iupiter hath none eleuated aboue
hym thereby to lett and inhibite his
influence, but is both the highest and
the strongest in the figure, and there-
fore the good effectes promised the-
by so muche the more, as witnesseth
Ptol. in his seconde Booke de *pre-
dictionibus Astronomicis*: His wor-
des being these: *Etenim benefica stel-*

A confutation of an

de & locis eventui obnoxij cognatio-
ne aliqua iuncta, si non superentur ab
alijs contraria secta stellis, efficacius
quod pollicentur natura sua bonitate
absolunt: Wherefore it is requisite
to shewe and declare to whom and
what Countries this saied good by
this Coniunction promised is espe-
cially portended: for as muche as it
were absurde in reason to thincke
this same to bee prefigured vnto the
whole, or vnto these to whō the same
in the Exacte tyme of the Coniunc-
tion doth not appzart: For as a Co-
mett signifieth not but vnto those to
whom the same doeth first shewe and
appeare: or an Eclipse, but vnto such
as se and behold the same, their reuo-
lutions notwithstanding about the
whole within the space of foure and
twentie houres: the like considera-
tion therefore of this Coniunction
not without cause at this present
in this behalfe, accordyng to the
whiche tyme and position it seer-
meth moste reasonable to thincke
the

Astrological discourse.

the good effectes by this Coniunction promised and presaged , especially to touche suche Regions and Countreys , as lye under the influence thereof, and as have the said *Jupiter* their patron and significator, as also unto those Countries that are subiect unto the signe of the Coniunction , or signe ascendent of the same, or signe wherein the *Almuten* of the Coniunction is as then seated and placed: And for as muche as the signe wherein the Coniunction wil happen is knowne to be of the fourth and last triplicitie, it hath his signification in the Countries, lying in respect of the whole Southwest , and those especially of the same situate on the Sea coste , and certaine Ilandes lying in the saied point, as also other Countries in the like position inuironed with many Riueres or greate waters, and to discende more particularly, unto *Normandy*, *Portingall* , and *Compestella* in *Spaigne*, and no lesse good hap promised likewise

A confutation of an

wise vnto the Countreies lying and
situate in respect of vs South:ast,
adjoyning and bounding vppon the
North Seas, *Quia Iupiter huius bo-
ni author & significator orientalis a
sole, & in latitudine australi, ac in pie-
scibus, signo aqueo ac septentrionali.*
And the signe Gemini wherein the
Almosen of the saied Coniunction
moueth, somewhat confirmeth the
same: *Habet enim signum geminorū,
ex regionibus Flandriam, Brabantia
&c. Et quia Iupiter huius rei domi-
nator fortis est per se, & erga solem,
& in domo pauperū, tristitia, meroris,
captiuorum, ac incarcerationum situs,
ac supra saturnum eiusdem domus
dominum exaltatus, eumque depri-
mens, exiliij, inopia, angustiarum, in-
flus, pauperis, interitus, vastitatis, co-
ruinatis ac penuria dominū, ac signifi-
catorum maxime necessariorū ad vi-
tum.* What is hereby to be thought?
but that the imprisoned in the saied
places to bee released, & the captiues
set at libertie, their dearth & penurie
turned

Astrological discourse.

turned into more abundance & plenty, their feare to ioy, their thraldome to libertie, their sorrow to comfort, & their long warre to sodaine and short peace, & the same so much the rather, if other more forcible & effectual causes coeure with y^e same as y^e two eclipses hereafter following, the one lighting nere vnto the degree of the sayd coniunction, & the other not far from the degree opposite to the same, but the god before promised is not like presently to take effect, but after certain small treasons, trecheries, secret conspiracies, & a set of like troubles before going: so; although Iupiter haue here in y^e victorie & superiortie, disposing so; the most part the coniunction after his own inclination & disposition: yet can it not be denied, but y^e Saturne worketh therein some little and small effect, though nothing in respect of y^e former god, & far lesse then otherwise he would, had he had the superiortie and supremacie therein. And it may seme somewhat strange thus to thinke,

A Confutation of

considering that þe said Saturne is in
this coniunction peregrine, weake, &
about dignitie, as also in domo ca-
dente, a weak place of þe figure, wher
unto I answer, wth Haly, Abenragell,
& other, that although he be without
dignitie, yet is he not voide of influ-
ēce, as also þe malefici being pere-
grins, are then readier & apter to mis-
chiefe then otherwise: howbeit their
force & abilitie, as then not answera-
ble to their will, as appeareth in the
direction of an Apheta, unto a weak
& peregrine Anarcta, and although
Saturne be in Cadente, yet must it be
considered with al, þe he is in domo in
qua gaudet. And therefore it is not a-
nec way to be intended, þe the domi-
nion and superioritie of the one, can
quite & wholly extinguishe the influ-
ence & operation of the other, but ra-
ther causeth it to appere mild, weak,
feeble, and verie remisse, Vt rerū um-
bræ potius, quam res ipsæ videantur,
þe otherwise would appeare, In inten-
tiori ac summo gradu. And for as
much

Astrological discourse.

much as Cardane in his first comment
 upon the second booke of Ptholhis
 quadrupartite, there speaking some-
 what of the coniunction of the second
 superiour planets, Saturne & Iupiter,
 thus saith of them. Hi tamen effec-
 tus vt dictum est, ab eclipsibus augen-
 tur vel minuantur, vel etiā ad effectum
 ducuntur. And therfore I will heeral-
 ter (whē as I haue occasiō to write of
 those two eclipses before mentioned)
 diligently consider what consent, or
 discent they haue with the same, & ac-
 cordingly to yeld my censure & opi-
 niō thereof, knowing not what shuld
 moue the authoꝝ of the late Astrolo-
 gicall discourse, without the consent
 of anie of the former considerations,
 so much to ascribe vnto the said con-
 iunction, vntesse the remembrance of
 the fiftie propositiō Centiloquij Ptho.
 & words being these. Ne pretermittas
 centum & decem nouē coniunctiones,
 in his enim posita est vis eorum quæ
 sunt in mūdo, & generationis & cor-
 ruptionis. The which words, if hee

A Confutation of an.

simply vnderstand, without any further respect (as I am certainly perswaded of no lesse), the s^r I no cause but that he may vpon the same ground take no lesse occasion to pronounce the like meruailes & miracles, vpon the coniunction of the two luminaries, the Sonne & the Moone, a matter happening once every month, the same being one of the Centum & decem nouem coniunctiones there specified. But s^r I purposed not to be over tedious and troublesome vnto your worship in this behalfe, I will at this present cease the further examination & declaration hereof, hoping that your worship will accept in good part, my simple and true meaning herein, vntill such time as it may please the Almighty, to inuene me with a farther knowledge in this science, worthy the better liking and contentation of your worship.

Your worships to command,

Thomas Digges.

tem de

la m

ut taberna

culu in

zonia de

mulor se

qued de coi

um altissimus

vel xpi Diffusa est

enagil sil et reg. a.

de oratione mane

in me dicitur et